

[1 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether Government are aware that deaths are still taking place in several States in the country due to starvation;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that starving people even do not have a single penny to purchase the foodgrains being provided under relief measures;

(d) whether there is any scheme with Government to provide relief to such people; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No incident of starvation death has been reported by any State/Union Territory so far.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) To ensure food security during drought and other natural calamities, foodgrains are provided free of cost in exchange for labour, under the relief works like Special Component of Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana, National Food for Work Programme. Foodgrains are provided free of cost to senior citizens under the Annapoorna Yojana. Government is also providing foodgrains on loan basis under Village Grain Banks Scheme to Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in chronically food scarce areas all over the country.

Release of foodgrains to States

†1084. SHRIJAI PARKASH AGGARWAL:

DR. PRABHATHAKUR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have requested the Central Government to release foodgrains from Central Pool as per their total

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

requirement under the Public Distribution System during the last three years keeping in view the drought and flood situation in the States;

(b) if so, the demand made by the State Government under Public Distribution System till date during the last three years; and

(c) the details of necessary steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Allocation for flood and drought relief does not constitute a part of the requirement of the States under Public Distribution System. But, in view of the recommendation of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the nodal Ministry for disaster management, and requests received from the State Government(s), from time to time, the Department of Food and Public Distribution has made additional allocation of foodgrains. The details of the additional allocation made to the States for drought and flood relief during the last three years in enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Additional Allocation of foodgrains to the States

Year	Name of the State Purpose		Rice (in	Wheat (in	Coarse
			Tonnes)	Tonnes) (in	Grains (Tonnes)
2004-05	Karnataka	Drought	15841	50000	.
	Bihar	Flood	50000		
2005-06	Gujarat	Flood	910	-	-
	Maharashtra	Flood	10000	10000	-
2006-07	Gujarat	Flood	4000	2000	500
	Maharashtra	Flood	2500	-	5000
	Andhra Pradesh	Flood	5000	-	-
	Karnataka	Flood	2500	2500	-
	Rajasthan	Flood	2000	-	-
	Madhya Pradesh	Flood	2000	-	-